(b) and (c) A greaser-helper at Giddi (C) Colliery of Central Coalfields Limited, while unauthorisedly riding on a dumper on 12-6-91, fell down and was run over by the same dumper sustaining fatal injuries.

(d) and (e) Departmental enquiry has been instituted in addition to the statutory inquiry conducted by the Director General of Mines Safety. Funeral expenses and ex-gratia payment were duly arranged and compensation amount deposited with the Workmen's Compensation Commissioner.

Expansion of Refineries

1098. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answers to Unstarred Question 62 and 79 given in the Rajya Sahbha on 15th July, 1991 and state:

(a) what is the estimated quantity of petrol proposed to be imported during 1991-92 (with value in foreign exchange);

(b) what is the percentage of annual growth in the consumption of petrol in the country and by what percentage the demand is estimated to rise during the next three years;

(c) what is the additional refining capacity created during 1988-90 and by what percentage the estimated projection of refining capacity is likely to be achieved during 1991-92; and

(d) what are the details of the strategy drawn up by the Government for the expansion of the existing refineries and for setting up new refineries during the Eighth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Nil.

(b) Growth in consumption of petrol during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 has been 8.6 per cent, 14.4 per cent and 1.4 per cent respectively. Growth in the demand during the next three years will depend on number of factors including conservation measures, fiscal policies and demand management measures.

(c) and (d) During 1989-90 no additional refining capacity was created. During 1991-92 also in additional refining capacity is likely to be created. Expansion/debottlenecking of existing refineries will result in creation of additional 8.65 MTPA capacity. New refineries at Karnal, Mangalore, Numaligarh and Narimanan will create new refining capacity of 12.5 MTPA. These projects are at various stages of implementation/approval.

Royalty on coal

1099. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 39 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 15th July, 1991 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to raise the royalty rates payable to the coal producing States; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDAR): (a) and (b) The rates of royalty on coal were last revised in February, 1981 and were due for revision in February, 1985. However the rates have not been revised so far mainly because most of coal producing States were levying heavy cesses on coal. Since levy of cesses by most State Governments has been set aside by courts, a proposal to enhance the rates of royalty on coal, is under consideration of Government of India.

Load shedding in Delhi

1100. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTINAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a regular load-shedding by D. E. S. U. in areas under its control;

(b) if so, the duration of such load-shedding locality-wise of Delhi;

(c) whether such load-shedding in old Delhi areas has been for days together;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether no advance announcement through media for such load-shedding has ever been made by the D.E.S.U.; and

(f) if so, what are the reasons for such lapse and what are the relevant rules for resorting to such load-shedding without prior intimation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) to (d) Normally, there is no difficulty in meeting the power requirements in Delhi. However, to bridge the gap between the demand and availability of power, which had increased due to extreme weather conditions and the delayed monsoon this year in many parts of the northern region, rotational load-shedding for one hour in different parts of Delhi, including old Delhi, had been enforced w.e.f. 3-6-1991. In addition, the peak period restrictions on industries are already in force. The position has, however, eased after 10.7.1991 due to rainfall and the fall in the temperature.

(e) and (f) The load-sheding schedule was published by DESU in leading news papers in the first week of June, 1991 for the information of the public. However, sometimes unscheduled load-shedding has also to be carried out in the interest of system parameters, in the event of low voltage and frequency conditions in the Northern Grid.

Foreign investment in Oil Sector

1101. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to involve foreigners and NRIs in investments in oil sector;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof with background for such move;

(c) whether Government have drawn up any scheme for the purpose; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) Government have decided to invite international and domestic companies, including NRIs, in the Fourth Round of bidding for exploration for oil and gas.

Increase in the price of crude oil

1102. SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ONGC has demanded an increase of 50 per cent in the price of domestic crude oil;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) whether the increase in the price of domestic crude oil will directly affect the prices of petroleum products; and

(d) if so, what remedial steps Government propose to take to contain the prise rise of oil?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) (a) to (d) Recommendations of the Oil Price Review Committee (OPRC) which cover, *inter alia*, the issue of domestic crude oil price are under examination of the Government.

Impact of devaluation on the Import of Petroleum Products

1103. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRIMAT SATYA BAHIN:
SHRI SOM PAL:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI: